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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **St. James Mercy Hospital Commemorates Health Care Auxilian Day**

**May 4, 2016...Hornell, NY** - Governor Andrew Cuomo has proclaimed May 4, 2016 as "Health Care Auxilian Day" in New York State. St. James Mercy Hospital is joining hospitals across the state in recognizing the dedicated auxilian volunteers who annually donate countless hours of service to their health care facilities and communities.

Founded in 1904, St. James Mercy's Auxiliary volunteers thousands of hours each year toward fundraising and community service projects. Through their past fundraising efforts, Auxiliary members have purchased much-needed equipment for the physical therapy and emergency departments, nursing home, and hospital; provided grants to adult day care and the School of Radiologic Science; and supported renovations to the Hospital lobby and McAuley Manor. The Auxiliary manages the gift shop at the Hospital, as well as coordinates events to benefit the hospital including book fairs, Trees of Life program, uniform sales, food fairs and bazaars. To date, the Auxiliary has contributed approximately \$750,000 to support St. James Mercy Hospital.

According to Jennifer Sullivan, President and CEO of St. James Mercy Hospital, "The Auxiliary makes it possible for us to fulfill our mission – to provide a full range of services that support healthy communities, including quality medical care and holistic approaches to healing body, spirit and mind. These volunteers often work behind the scenes to provide comfort and support to patients, families and staff. We are so fortunate to have this dedicated and talented group, committed to serving the many needs of people who come to us for care."

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***About St. James Mercy Hospital** - Founded in 1890, St. James Mercy Hospital provides compassionate, quality care for the residents of Hornell, NY and the surrounding communities. The hospital offers a full range of inpatient and outpatient services, including emergency, express care, acute medical and surgical, imaging, and laboratory. Specialty services include orthopedics, dialysis, cardiac rehabilitation, pulmonary rehabilitation, physical therapy, and a personal emergency response system (MercyLine). For more information, visit [www.stjamesmercy.org](http://www.stjamesmercy.org).*